

DRAFT IS VITAL TO U.S. VICTORY, SAYS BRITISHER

General Bridges, Here With Balfour, Warns of Army Error.

CITES KITCHENER'S VOLUNTEER BLUNDER

Keep Industry at Normal and Select Fighters, Is Advice

WASHINGTON, April 24. Conscription is necessary if America is to have any success in the war. Lieutenant General B. T. M. Bridges stepped out of the great international war council of the Allies to deliver this message to the American people today.

GO THE WHOLE WAY

Then Lieutenant General Bridges sounded the keynote of the British commission's message to the American people. He said: "If you're going to war, you must go the whole hog. You must go to it intelligently, systematically."

Men, women and children must all fight at home and at the front. It is no longer a war merely of expeditions. It's a war of nations.

General Bridges made it clear that England believed conscription alone, with the coordination of national forces it involves, would enable America to speed the end of the war. He added:

Our duty now is to speed up the war. As to how it will end, it can only end one way; and if everybody's neck is put to the job, we can end it quickly. Conscription will insure that this is done.

The general then spoke of England's attitude toward conscription: "The people of England are won to universal service. They are strong for conscription. I may say they are fanatics on the subject. They opposed only because they didn't know what it was. They now realize that it is simply the making of war on business principles."

The calm, unimaginative commander of fighting men then pointed out how Lord Kitchener's volunteer recruiting was the innocent means of retarding England's progress in the war. He said:

Kitchener's problem was to raise a volunteer army. It was wrong, but Kitchener, a good soldier, threw himself into the task and did it. If it had not been for Kitchener's tremendous personality we would have had conscription very early in the war. It was the great blunders of his volunteer recruiting that we had to go back and correct and at such a cost.

General Bridges talked with the newspapermen in the magnificent music room of the British quarters on Sixteenth street. He rose, tall and impressive, before a background of gorgeous American beauty roses, which lent a peculiar touch to the unusual scene.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCE After outlining to the correspondents their important part in the successful warring of a war general Bridges launched into a glowing tribute to the French.

"We've been sent here to greet a great republic, which, we hope, is to stand side by side with the French, our greatest friends in Europe."

Our feeling for the French has passed friendship. It is a love. It is almost automatically assuming this duty when sent into the field. Whether a country lad, a kitchen hand, a clerk—the Frenchman has trained himself for a part and plays it promptly upon call.

"You will see fought side by side with the French we knew little of warfare. They were trained in times of peace. Our men were clear-eyed, good-looking men—but not soldiers."

And, even as we, your people, with their great freedom and lack of military knowledge, have much to learn. Perhaps we can help you, as the French helped us, to avoid some of the larger pitfalls into which we fell at the beginning of the war.

OFFERS TO AID General Bridges emphasized that this spirit of helpfulness predominated the purpose of the British commission.

"There is no intention or desire to interfere in your show," he said characteristically.

But when asked he said he would, if invited, be glad to appear before the House and Senate and discuss England's experiences in raising an army. General Bridges then turned to the details of military training.

"I hope," said he, "America will not be guilty of our blunder in sending officers to the front with guns on their shoulders. You hear of a great deal about the tremendous importance of artillery. It is important—to prepare the way—but artillery cannot dig the enemy out of their positions. Only the bayonet can do that."

"Bayonets win battles." The great giant of a man—he is six feet 4 inches—standing erect and immobile in his khaki and heavy, thick-soled service shoes, formed a sharp contrast to the elegance and refinement of the sumptuously appointed room around him. The subdued intensity of the man fresh from the trenches was upon him.

"General," he was asked, "is it advisable to keep up our commerce and internal manufactures as nearly to normal as may be in war time?"

"By all means," said Bridges, "keep up every phase of commerce and industry that is important to the business life of the nation."

"However," he added, "we have discontinued making pins for the Chinese, and things like that."

FOES TO DRAFT ROUTED; WILSON TO WIN DEMAND

Continued from Page One Kellar amendment to the Administration bill as it comes out of the Senate Military Affairs Committee. The McKellar amendment is a purely selective draft bill to raise 500,000 men by embodying in the measure a provision that selection be resorted to only in the event the volunteer system fails.

The defeat of the McKellar amendment under any amendment modifying the selection principle desired by the Administration is a gain and other leaders fighting for the Wilson bill.

Senator Thomas, Democrat, of Colorado, arguing for trial first of a volunteer system, said that if conscriptionists were sincere they should advocate not only emulation of England's example in this respect, but also ample in Government control of railroads and waterway transportation systems.

Advanced as an argument for trial of the draft, Senator Thomas read Colonel Roosevelt's offer to raise and lead a volunteer division to the trenches. He termed Roosevelt's offer as a "great, worthy, patriotic" offer.

Senator Gallinger called attention to the reported refusal of Roosevelt's offer. "Has that offer been entertained?" he asked Thomas.

"So far as I know no offer to raise volunteers has been entertained," Thomas answered. "It is my understanding that it was refused," Gallinger returned.

"Such offers as this ought to be heeded before we resort to conscription," declared Senator Thomas.

Senator Thomas attacked vigorously the "selective element" of the bill as creating a class of slackers and he assailed exemption clauses as framed on the grounds of "their inequality."

"The very class—slackers—this bill is designed to reach are exempted under the provisions. For instance, there is nothing to compel a man exempted because engaged in agricultural pursuits to continue in that occupation," he said.

Just as Administration leaders in the House were exulting today over the prospects of victory for the Administration's general selection bill, Speaker Champ Clark came out against the measure. The speaker not only expressed his opposition to the principle of the draft, but added his own opinion that such a bill could not be put through Congress.

The speaker's position on the all-absorbing subject at the Capitol became known just after Representative Julius Kahn, of California, had declared that the majority for conscription was piling up in the House every hour.

The conflicting views of the speaker and Mr. Kahn are typical of the general non-partisan character of the fight now going on in Congress. Mr. Kahn, a Republican, is the spokesman of the President in the House fight for an army bill to meet the selection views held by the Administration. Mr. Kahn thus is fighting the battle of the Administration against the Democratic Committee of the House Military Affairs Committee. Mr. Dent, who favors a volunteer bill.

All in all, the second day of the general debate on the bill seemed to find House sympathy increasing in favor of the straight-out draft measure sought by the President. The vote cannot be taken until the end of the week.

CLARK AGAINST DRAFT Speaker Champ Clark, in opposing the selective system as against the volunteer method, told a delegation from the National Security League today that he would never vote for draft. The delegation, headed by a man bearing 1,000,000 names of persons who think a volunteer system wrong. The members asked Clark "as head of the popular branch of the national legislature" to vote for a straight selective system.

"I'd never vote for such a plan," declared Clark with heat. "Such a bill will never pass. The War Department is trying to bring the country into a conscription system. The best armies we ever had were volunteer armies."

"I do not want to see my son conscripted," Clark said, "and I don't want the youth of the country volunteer before fastening the disgrace of conscription upon them."

A plea for army selection by Representative Van V. Stephens, Democrat, the first member from Nebraska to endorse the measure, was a feature of the House proceedings when the debate was resumed.

"I will support the President in this matter," said Stephens, "because I am confident beyond the shadow of a doubt that the volunteer system is absolutely unjust, unbusinesslike and unmoral, and, in addition, it is a waste of money."

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Prof. R. A. Pierson, president Iowa State College, said the most serious feature of the food situation was farm labor shortage. He said farmers even in the national crisis were hesitating to plant increased acreage, fearing overproduction and low prices. He added that overproduction was impossible.

"The Government should protect farmers by a minimum price based on an average of the market price for the last year, plus an increase for higher cost of seed and labor," said Pierson. He said that the wheat shortage was serious.

"We consumed last year our entire wheat crop," he said. "The Allies will call upon us for a larger amount this year by at least 30,000,000 bushels."

"On top of this the farmers are planting a smaller acreage than the year named."

With a view of framing legislation the committee is hearing experts from every food field.

Chairman Gore wired an invitation to George W. Perkins to appear.

Legislation to guarantee American farmers a reasonable minimum price for their products was urged by food experts before the Senate Agriculture Committee today.

This plan, being crystallized by the Department of Agriculture, will be laid before Congress soon.

In the opinion of Government experts the "minimum price guarantee" would go far to solve the food problem, increase production and prevent speculation.

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GOVERNORS URGE WAR BAN ON RUM

Many Executives of "Wet" States Favor Prohibition to Save Grain

SOME WITHHOLD VIEWS

NEW YORK, April 24. Governors of many of the country's twenty-one "wet" States are in favor of war prohibition for conservation of food materials. Others are noncommittal, holding back and "awaiting developments," a canvass by the United Press showed today.

Most of the war prohibition sentiment seems to be in the West, although Governor Brumbaugh, of Pennsylvania, came out flatly in favor of it.

"I favor war prohibition to conserve the grain supply as well as for other considerations," said Brumbaugh. "Grain conservation was one of the impelling reasons which led me to telegraph President Wilson that every consideration of health and economy warranted me in urging war prohibition."

"I think it would be better to use grain for food instead of using it for making whisky," declared Governor Marcus H. Holcombe, of Connecticut. "I don't care to say at this time whether I believe it would be advisable to declare prohibition during the war."

Governor Washington Lindsay, of New Mexico, asserted he believed in national prohibition now and for all time. In his opinion, Congress certainly should prohibit the use of grain in manufacturing liquors now and during the war period.

One of the strongest advocates of the war prohibition move is Governor Boyle, of Nevada. "I heartily approve of the plan to invoke national prohibition at this time, and I have so wired the President," he said.

Governor E. L. Phillip, of Wisconsin, was noncommittal. He believes matters have not developed enough for him to venture an opinion.

While refusing to discuss prohibition, Governor Ferguson, of Texas, flatly declared he would stand with President Wilson in any such step taken for the national defense.

Governor Lowden, of Illinois, believes the responsibility rests with the proper officials in Washington and is keeping "hands off."

Among others, Governor Whitman, of New York, and Governor McCall, of Massachusetts, refused to comment.

Representative Harrison, Democrat, of Virginia, the successor of Hay, former chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, was loudly applauded when he quoted the words of Thomas Jefferson in favor of universal military training in service. Prefacing his quotation by saying that he represented the congressional district of Jefferson, Mr. Harrison said:

In a letter to James Monroe, in 1812, the delegate from Nebraska said that he was surprised to learn that members of the American Defense Society, 303 Fifth avenue, New York, who sent telegrams to his district urging draft, were stockholders in munitions plants. He did not explain for the reasons.

Passage of a straight draft bill will "rob the homes of the country" of youths "undeveloped physically and mentally, many of them with no special talents," representative Fields, of the Military Committee, declared.

"We need the best fighting force we can get," Fields said. "Under a straight conscription system we shall get an army of youths, two-sevenths of them under twenty-one years old."

Representative Anthony, Kansas, charged that munitions makers were behind the propaganda to force selective draft in the army. He said he would not be surprised to learn that members of the American Defense Society, 303 Fifth avenue, New York, who sent telegrams to his district urging draft, were stockholders in munitions plants. He did not explain for the reasons.

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U. S. and Allies to Open Council on Wednesday

Continued from Page One His choice as head of the commission is considered a particularly happy one in view of his adherence to democratic principles and his close affiliation with the democratic movement in France.

Marshal Joseph Jacques Joffre is probably the Frenchman on the commission best known to Americans, due to his splendid leadership of the French forces during the first two years of the war. He was chief of the French General Staff at the outbreak of the war. The grade of marshal, which had lapsed since 1870, was specially revived in order to reward him for his service for his nation when it was decided to replace him with a younger man at the heading of the fighting forces in the field.

"Taps" Joffre, as he is affectionately called by his soldiers, is known for his simple tastes, his strict disciplinarianism and his belief in attack as against defense. He is a mathematician of the highest order. When Joffre was generalissimo of the French forces he was the youngest man in the French army to hold such an exalted rank. He retired in favor of General Nivelle on December 13, 1916.

Vice Admiral P. L. A. Cochepret is the ranking naval officer of France and known as an expert on submarine defense.

Marquis Pierre de Chamberlain is a descendant of the Marquis de Lafayette.

British Foreign Secretary Arthur J. Balfour and President Wilson, heads of the Anglo-American war parley, planned to spend today tabulating the results of their first conference.

Both were up early. Denying themselves to all callers, they spent several hours getting down to a working basis for the coming series of conferences, at which the French and American commissioners will also be present.

Money and food were the outstanding points for immediate consideration. These have in part been disposed of. The British commission backed up the American government's campaign for food production in every word its members uttered.

The details of America's first war loan to England—which will be included in the \$2,000,000,000 loan to the Allies, for which bonds are about to be offered to the public—today were to be up for final decision between Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Lord Curzon, governor of the Bank of England.

Shipping, logically the next problem to be considered after money and food, was to be stressed in the informal conferences between all the commissioners today.

Consideration of this question centered in the parleys between Admiral De Chair, the British wheat expert, Secretary Danieles, American commerce officials and Federal Shipping Board officials.

All these points are to be settled only tentatively, however, as no conclusive action will be taken until the French commission has arrived at the capital and been received into the Allied councils.

Preliminary developments in the co-operative war parleys will be submitted today by Balfour to members of the British commission, and by President Wilson to the members of his Cabinet. This will be the first meeting between the President and his Cabinet since the British commission arrived.

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COURT ASKED TO FORFEIT SHARE OF RUBBER COMPANY

Bill in Equity Filed in Court Against Stockholders of Gibley Tire Firm

NORRISTOWN, Pa., April 24.—Although an attempt is being made to acquire the business of the Gibley Tire and Rubber Company by sale at half the value, a bill in equity was filed in court today, on behalf of the stockholders of the company.

James L. Gibley and others, plaintiffs, against Howard Davis, John McHugh, Harold H. Hoig, John H. Wood, Gibley Tire and Rubber Company and the Commercial Car Tire Company.

It is charged that the defendants, who comprise the committee of creditors who has been running the business of the Gibley Tire and Rubber Company, whose plant is located in Conshohocken, have offered to sell the business at a sacrifice, and therefore the court is asked to restrain such sale.

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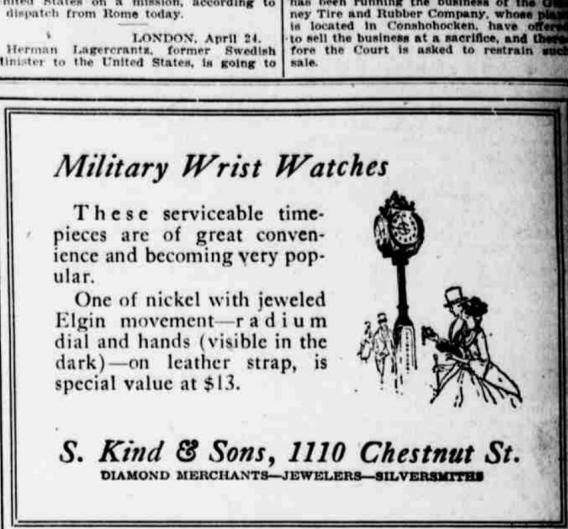
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Military Wrist Watches

These serviceable timepieces are of great convenience and becoming very popular.

One of nickel with jeweled Elgin movement—a radium dial and hands (visible in the dark)—on leather strap, is special value at \$13.

S. Kind & Sons, 1110 Chestnut St. DIAMOND MERCHANTS—JEWELERS—SILVERSMITHS



ARMY SELECTION GAINS IN HOUSE, DESPITE CHAMP CLARK'S OPPOSITION

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